

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:543
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
ENDING OF NIGHT SOIL ON HEAD
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether no significant progress has been made towards ending the practice of carrying night soil on head by the year 2000-2001 and to rehabilitate those engaged in it;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the concrete steps taken or being taken by the Government to end this practice;
- (d) whether the Government have set any new target to end this practice;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) & (b) Under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents (NSLRS) 1,51,876 and 3,86,204 scavengers have been trained and rehabilitated respectively by the year 2000-2001, out of the 6,76,000 identified scavengers.

(c) to (f) In compliance with the Prime Minister's announcement on 15th August Independence Day, 2002 regarding amalgamation of different schemes presently being run by various Ministry/Departments for liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers, the Planning Commission have, in consultation with all the concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India, proposed a Draft 'National Action Plan for Total Eradication of Manual Scavenging by the year 2007', which amalgamates schemes run by Departments of Central Government. This is under consideration.